

Can we draw you out?

A NEW FONT IS BORN - from a community project in Bunscoil Rís, New Ross, a Primary School in County Wexford. Invited artist Elida Maiques, cartoonist, illustrator and filmmaker showed the children how to transform the letters of the alphabet into homes!

Co-produced and curated by Mary-Ruth

Funded by the Arts Office, Wexford County Council and New Ross Municipal District and supported by Kennedy Summer School.

First lets meet the artist who came to Bunscoil Rís, here is Elida Maiques...



...she doesn't really look like this, but this is the image she uses when she emails me!

She tells me we are going to take a walk through the Irishtown and draw some buildings!

BUT FIRST! ...we see some mystery photos of bits of New Ross in a slide show in class, we try to spot where the mystery photos are in the town - it's not that easy – we need to get out to look!

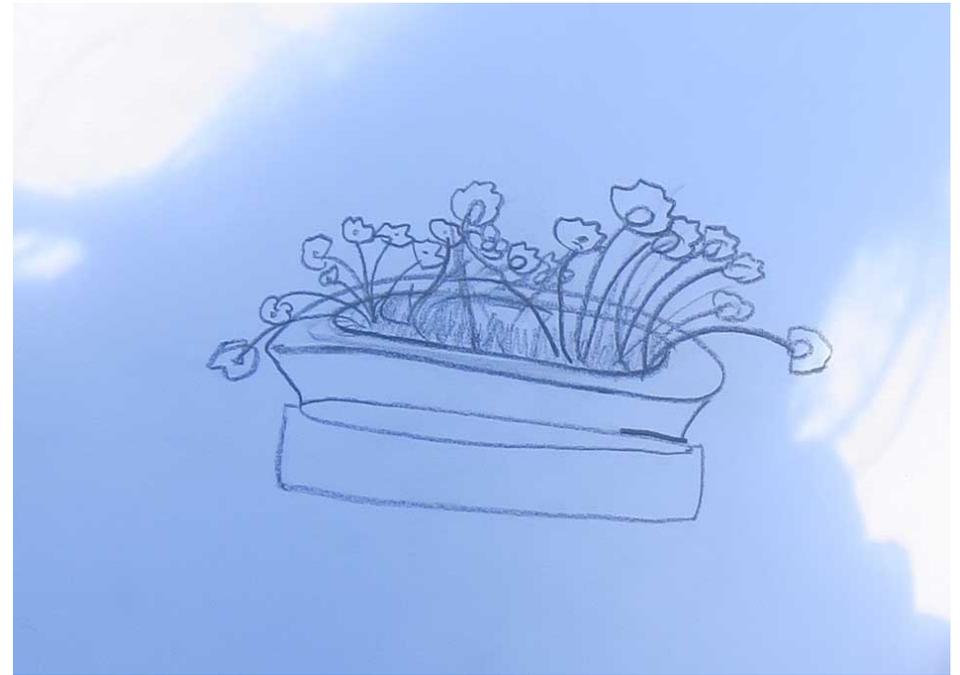
Out in the fresh air we walk and draw...we become drawing detectives and start looking...

...really looking, looking so hard...





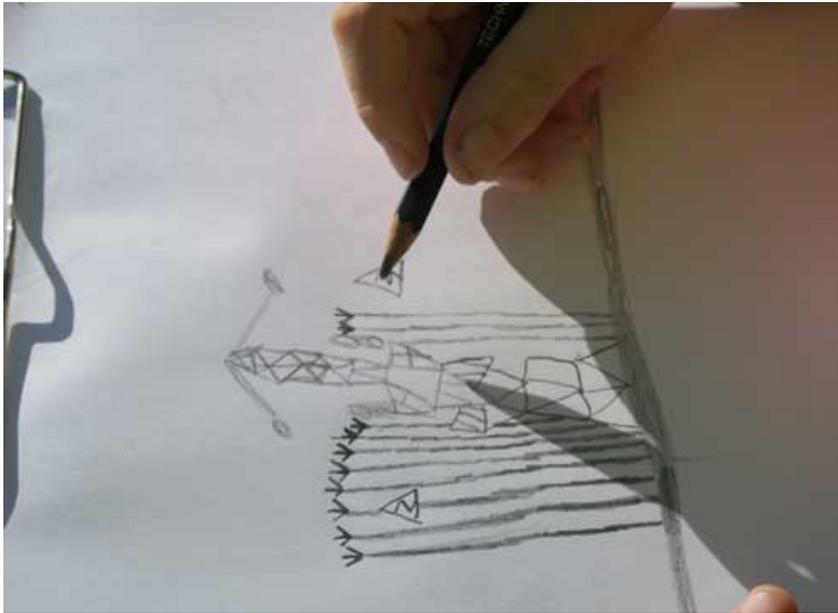
...that we begin to see things we never noticed – that we pass everyday!



We thought this was a bath-sized flower planter!

Then we found out it's a trough, that's for animals to eat or drink out of. There used to be an animal market on this street.

The trough is called 'historic street furniture' its one of 300 ancient things in our town!



So much looking, drawing and concentrating.

We are seeing things that we pass by everyday but never really saw before 😊

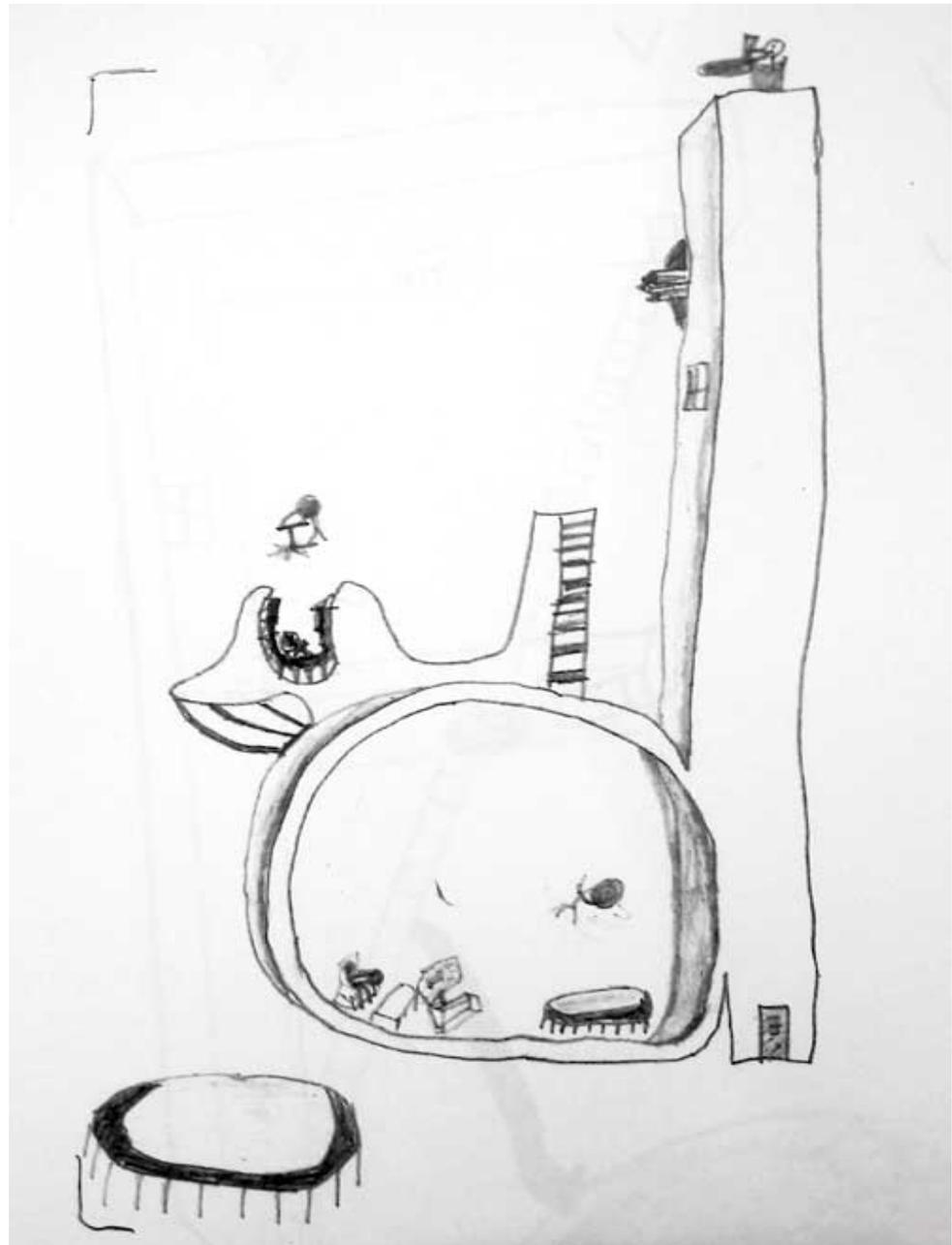


Back in Bunscoil Rís...

Elida Maiques showed us (the children 😊) how to transform the letters of the alphabet into homes - inspired by New Ross town.

We designed letters and inspired by our drawings we make a letter into a house we can live in!

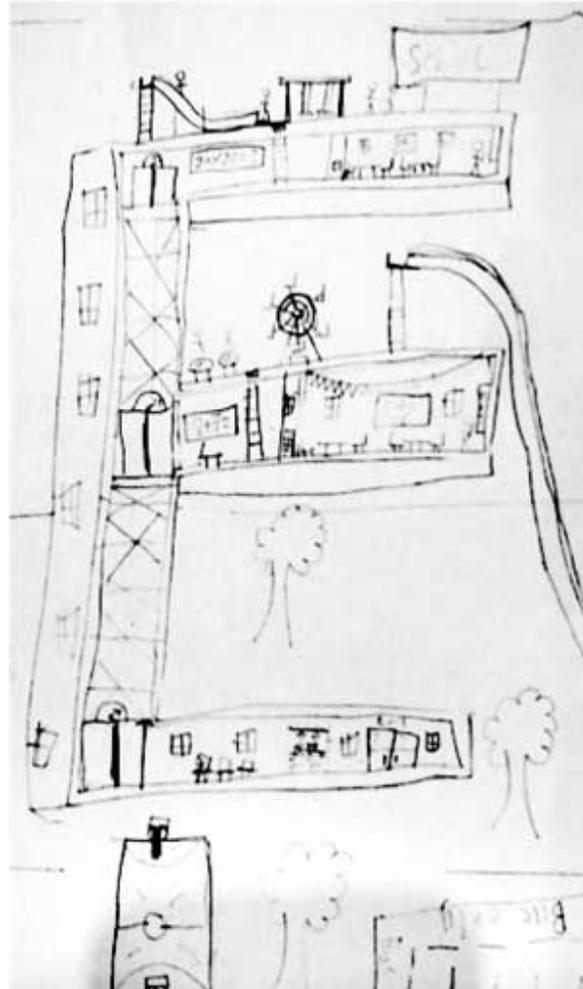
A trampoline house!



A 't' house full of windows, light
and ❤️ that we can live in!



An 'E' house! Weeeee...slides on the roof



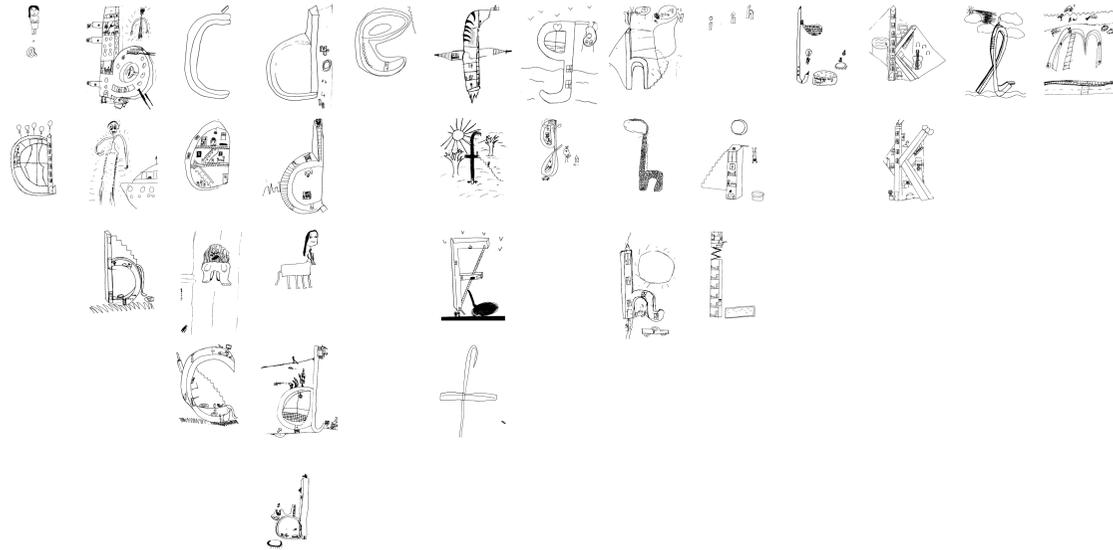
...slides instead of stairs!

Now we have an alphabet of house letters.

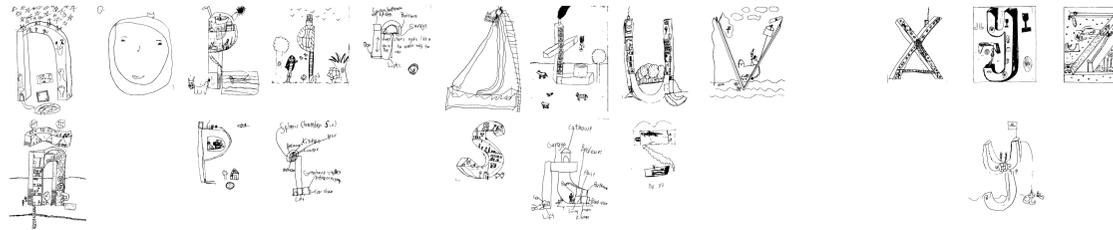
What will we do with them?

Elida  will scan them and make them into a font that we can use on our computers...it's a font inspired by New Ross Architecture!

A B C D E F G H I J K L M



N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z



Elida is very clever, she turned our hand-drawn letters into a unique FONT
the rhythm of our hand-drawn letter stays the same shape – each letter unique to each child
- we love it.

P.S. she tells us her friend helped her...we still think she's clever.

In this alphabet, each letter is a home.



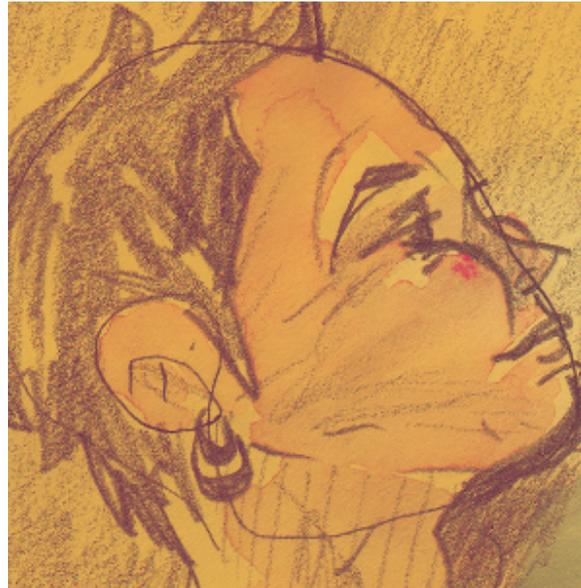
Wexford County Council Arts Department and New Ross Municipal District

This alphabet is part of the project *Can We Draw You Out?* workshops devised and run by visual artist Elida Maiques. Letters drawn by the 5th class students of Bunscoil Ris. The project was co-produced and curated by Mary-Ruth Walsh.

Thanks Elida!



We now know you don't look like a dinosaur,



this is Elida's self-portrait

Congratulations to all in Bunscoil Rís on a fantastic project.

Now we – and YOU – can use this font to write to all your family and friends in any language as there are

493 UNICODE Latin characters!

**TO THE TEACHERS AND CHILDREN OF BUNSCOIL RÍ, IT
WAS GREAT TO WORK WITH YOU!**

Font download available soon here.

Please note the designers ethos as defenders of human rights. This font is not to be used by organisations or people as a tool for oppression of any collective or person.